

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA
DOCKET NO. 2004-289-T - ORDER NO. 2004-635
DECEMBER 21, 2004

IN RE: Application of Midlands Specialty Services,) ORDER APPROVING
Inc., 1041 Broad Stone Road, Irmo, SC 29063) RATE INCREASE
(District 2) for an Increase in Rates.)

This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (“Commission”) on the request of Midlands Specialty Services, Inc. (“Midlands Specialty” or the “Company”) for a rate increase in certain of its rates and charges.

Midlands Specialty was granted a Class E Certificate of Public Convenience and Necessity (“Certificate of PC&N”) by Order No. 2002-259, dated April 4, 2002, in Docket No. 2001-501-T, to transport household goods between points and places in Richland, Lexington, and Fairfield Counties, South Carolina. Thereafter, by Order No. 2004-50, dated February 4, 2004, in Docket No. 2003-269-T, Midlands Specialty’s Certificate of PC&N was amended granting the Company statewide authority.

Presently, Midlands Specialty has a tariff on file with and approved by this Commission. By its request dated October 7, 2004, Midlands Specialty seeks approval of changes to the Company’s tariff by modifications to its hourly rates, and Midlands Specialty submits with its request a proposed Schedule of Charges. The current hourly rate structure for Midlands Specialty is as follows: Two Movers - \$70.00 and Three

Movers - \$85.00. The Company proposes the following modifications to the stated hourly rates: Two Movers - \$75.00 and Three Movers - \$95.00.

By letter dated October 12, 2004, the Program Assistant of the Commission's Transportation Department instructed the Midlands Specialty to publish a prepared Notice of Filing in newspapers of general circulation in the areas of the state affected by the proposed rate increase. The purpose of the Notice of Filing was to advise interested persons of the requested rate increase and of the manner and time to intervene in the proceedings before the Commission. The Company filed affidavits of publication indicating that it had duly published the notice of filing. No Petitions to Intervene or Protests were received concerning the notice of the rate increase.

As no Protests or Petitions to Intervene were received concerning Midlands Specialty's requested rate increase, the matter of the rate increase was brought before the Commission at the Commission's regular meeting on December 21, 2004.

The Staff of the Commission's Transportation Department conducted an audit on Midlands Specialty's proposed increase in rates. According to the audit results, if the proposed rates are approved, Midlands Specialty will realize \$14,008 in additional income, and the Company's operating ratio will change from 98.57% to 90.45%.

Upon examination of the proposed rates, the Commission finds the requested increases just and reasonable. The proposed increases produce increased revenues which result in a slight change in Midlands Specialty's operating ratio. Further, the Commission notes that the rates involved are lower than corresponding rates of the South Carolina Tariff Bureau. Therefore, the Commission approves the proposed rates as filed.

IT IS THEREFORE ORDERED THAT:

1. The proposed rates as filed by Midlands Specialty Services, Inc. are hereby approved.
2. This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:

/s/
Randy Mitchell, Chairman

ATTEST:

/s/
G. O'Neal Hamilton, Vice Chairman

(SEAL)